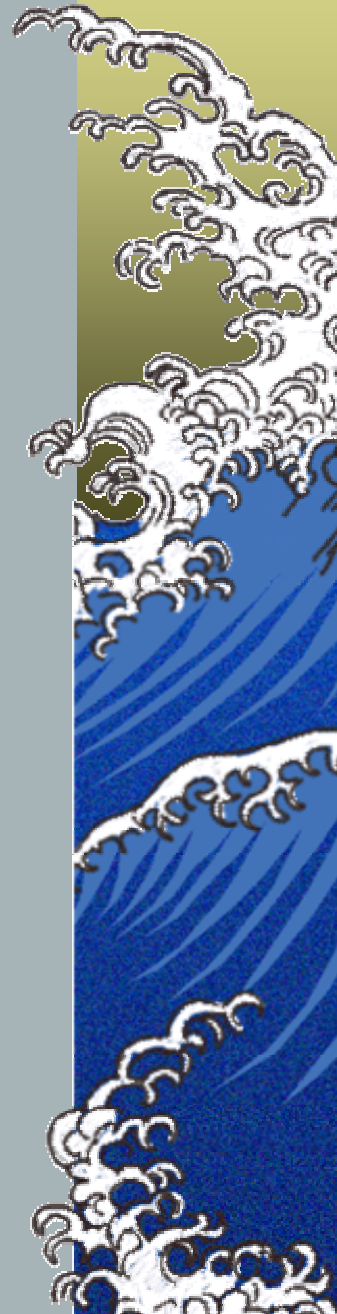


Health Disparities Among the Elderly

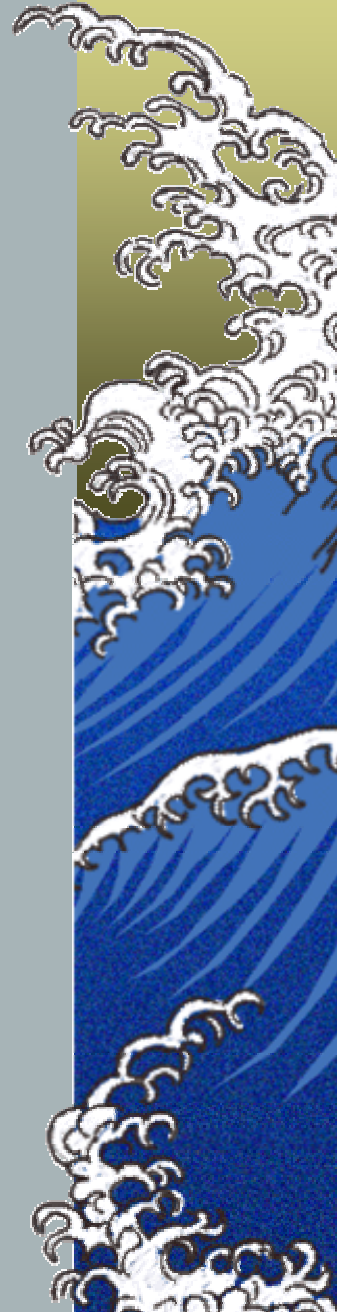
*Preparing a Representative Health
Care Workforce in Geriatrics*

Janet C. Frank, DrPH

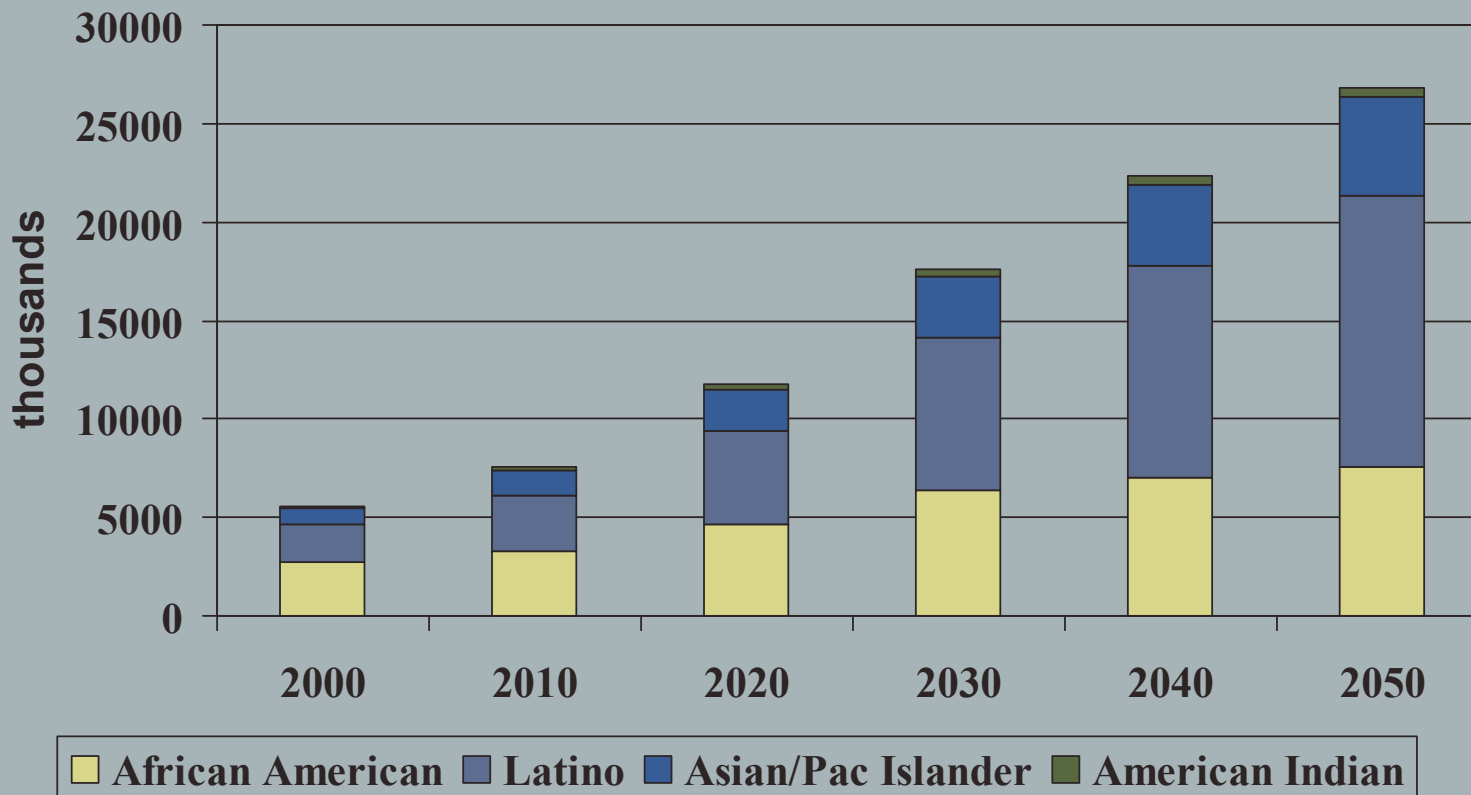


Overview of Presentation

- ▶ *Demographics of minority elders*
- ▶ *Health care workforce:*
 - ▶ *Poor preparation for elder care*
 - ▶ *Lack of inclusion of underserved minority groups*
- ▶ *Programs and policies to address “The Perfect Storm”*

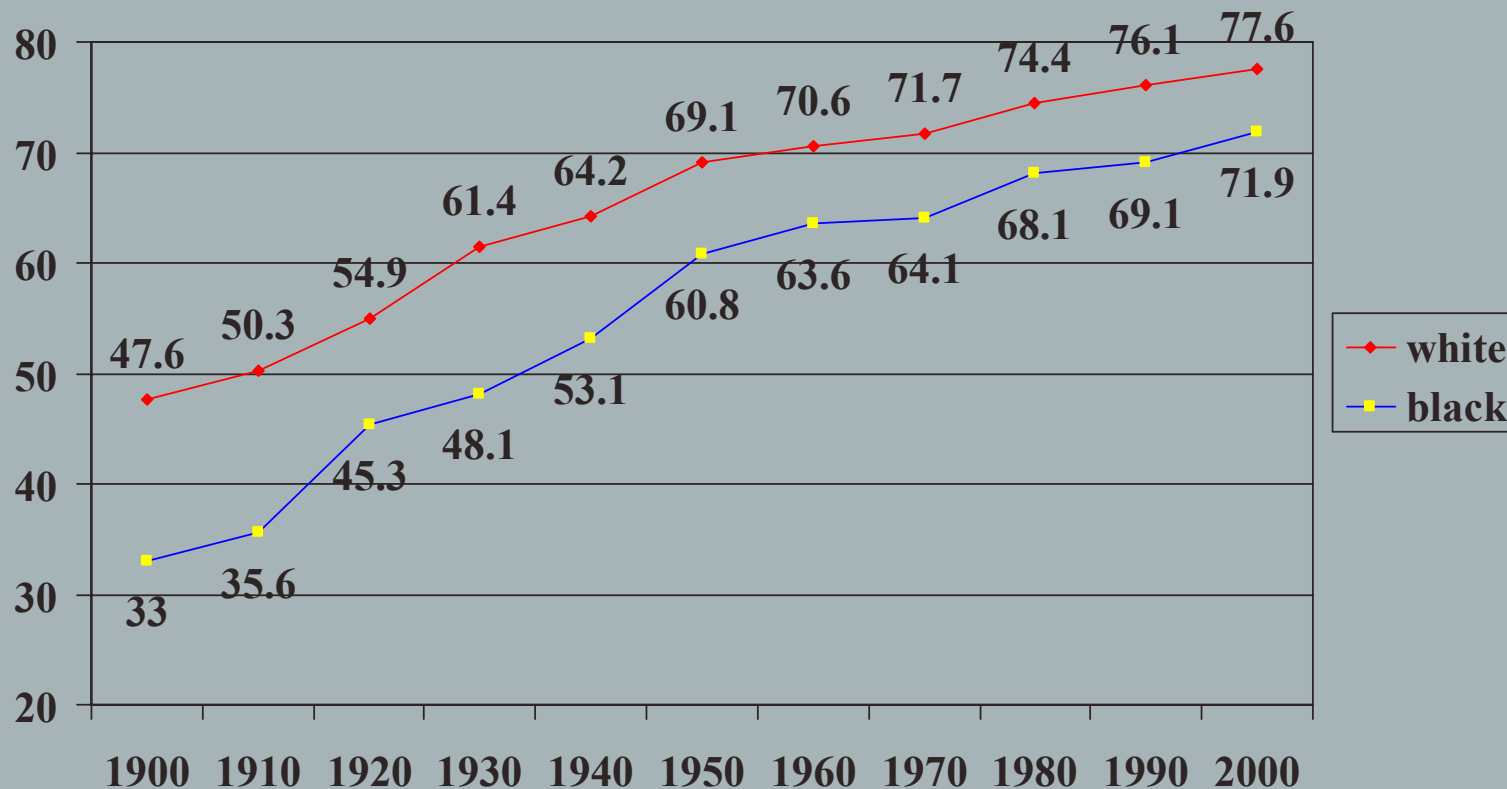


Minority Elderly Population, U.S. 2000-2050



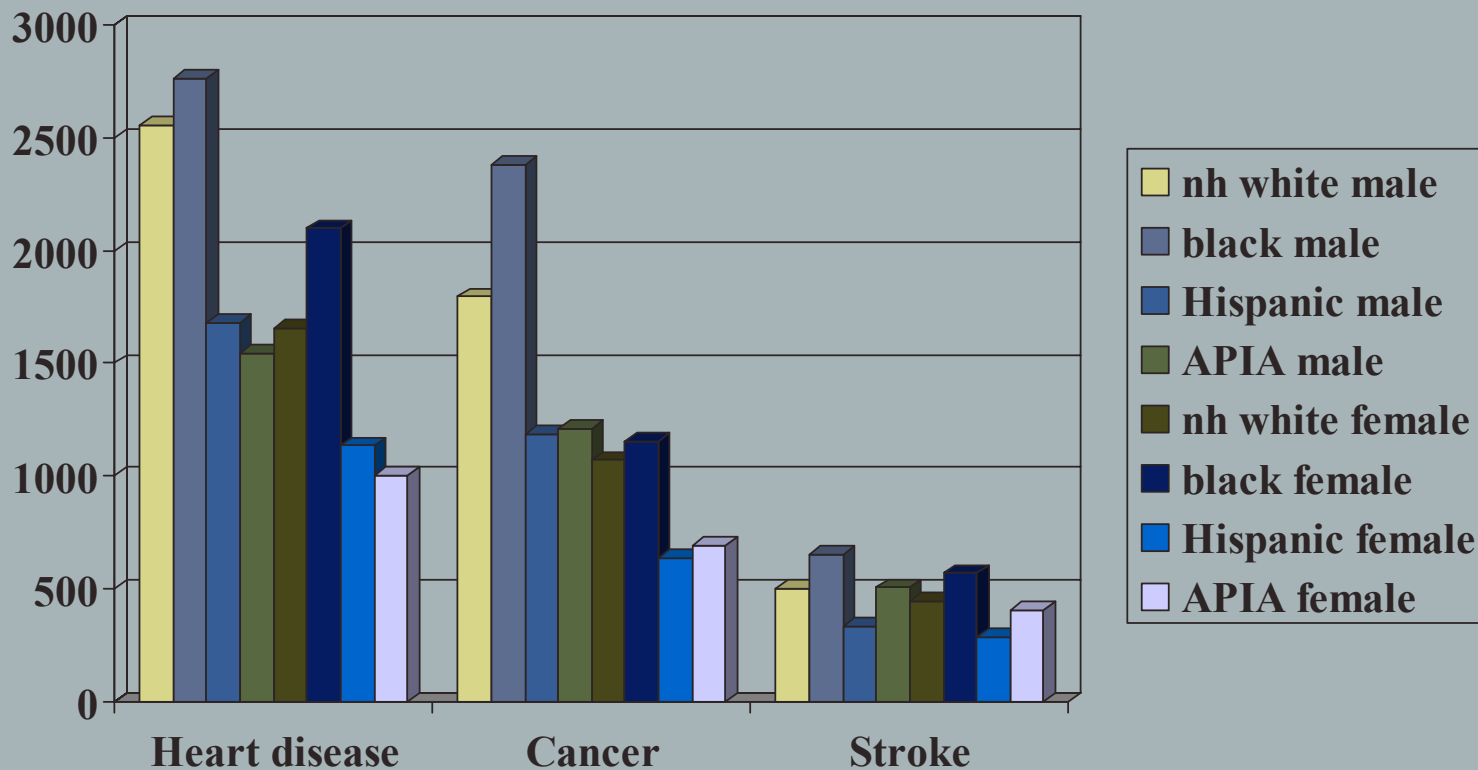
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, p25-1130

Life Expectancy at Birth

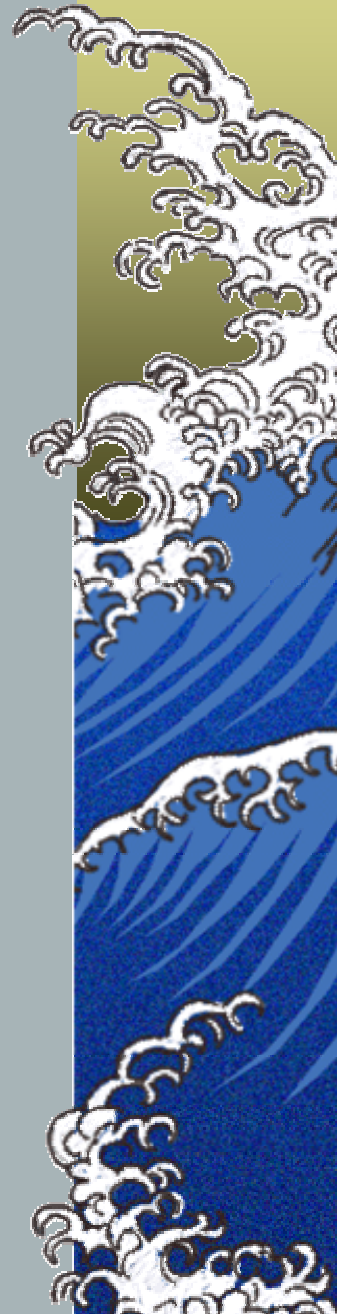


Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Health U.S. 2004.

Leading Causes of Death Persons Age 75-84



Source: Health U.S., 1999, NCHS, tables 37-39



The Importance of Having a Representative Health Care Workforce

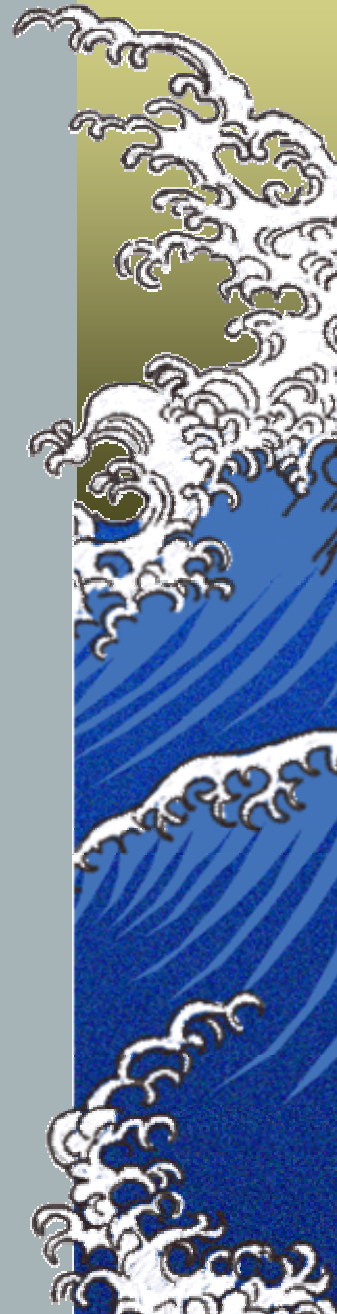
- ▶ *National policy priority: HRSA, HP2010, NIH Roadmap*
- ▶ *Equality and economic well-being of under-represented minorities (URMs)*
- ▶ *The three-A's of public health: ACCESS, Affordability, and APPROPRIATENESS of health care provided*



Our Focus: Selected Types of Health Care Professionals

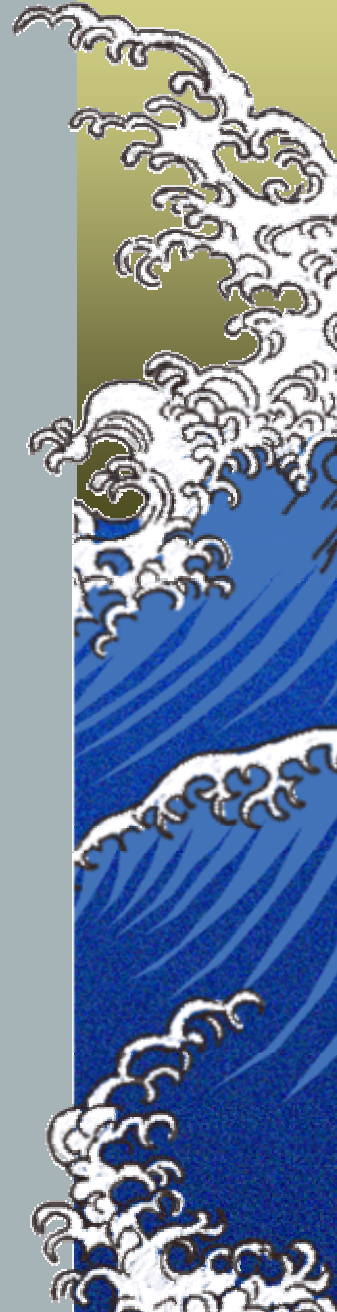
- ▲ *Physicians**
- ▲ *Nurses**
- ▲ *Pharmacists**
- ▲ *Social Workers**
- ▲ *Public Health*

** Have either added qualifications exam or competencies established + Physical therapy*



Preparation of Physicians: The Perfect Storm

- ▶ *10% of physicians are American Indian, African American or Hispanic*
- ▶ *3 of our 145 medical schools have a geriatrics department*
- ▶ *14 medical schools (less than 10 percent) require a geriatrics course*
- ▶ *Currently we have 6,000 certified geriatricians*



Preparation of Nurses: The Perfect Storm

- ▶ *10% of registered nurses are American Indian, African American or Hispanic*
- ▶ *30 of our 670 baccalaureate nursing programs have exemplary geriatric programs*
- ▶ *Less than 1 percent of the 2.2 million practicing registered nurses in the U.S. are certified in geriatrics*



Preparation of Pharmacists: The Perfect Storm

- ▶ *CA pharmacy graduates 2000:*
 - ▶ *<1% are American Indian*
 - ▶ *8% are African American*
 - ▶ *3% are Hispanic*
- ▶ *48% of pharmacy programs provide a course on geriatric pharmacotherapy*
- ▶ *25% of programs offer a specialization in geriatrics*
- ▶ *700 pharmacists (<1%) have the geriatrics certification nationwide*



Preparation of Social Workers: The Perfect Storm

- ▶ *7% of LCSW's are African American*
- ▶ *4% are Latino and 1% are Native Am*
- ▶ *59 (of 150) MSW programs offer a concentration in aging or gerontology*
- ▶ *3 (of 432) BSW programs offer this concentration*
- ▶ *2.4% of professional MSWs specialize in geriatrics*



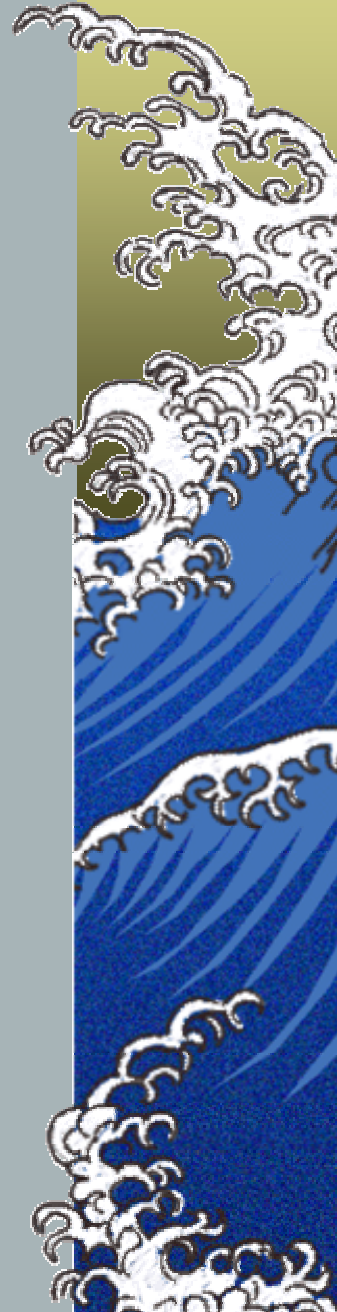
Preparation of Public Health Professionals: The Perfect Storm

- *Sectors of public health have good URM representation*
- *Most public health schools offer at least one elective on an aging topic; none have a requirement*
- *Public health dept units have not identified aging as a priority area of concern nor as a priority training area for public health practice.*

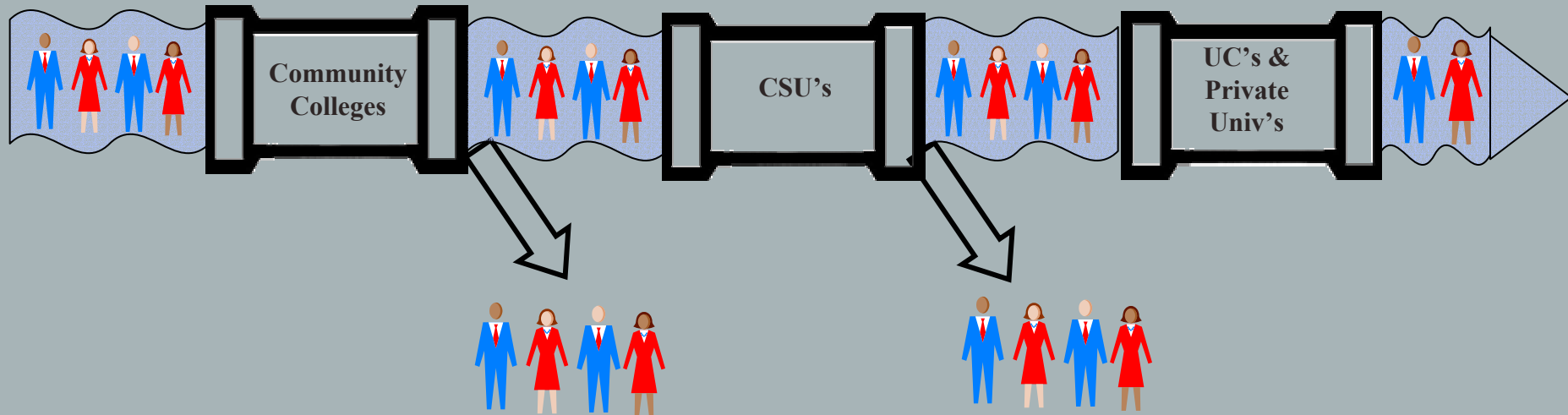


Programs and Policies

- ▶ *Series of programs focused on URM*s
 - ▶ *Magnate schools and special tracks*
 - ▶ *HCOP, HETCs, RCMARs*
- ▶ *Programs focused on ↑aging curriculum*
 - ▶ *Geriatric education centers (HRSA)*
 - ▶ *Healthy Aging Network (HAN) includes 8 accredited public health programs (CDC)*
 - ▶ *Discipline-specific initiatives (many by JAHF)*



California's Educational Pipeline to Create Representative Health Profession's Workforce



Resources

- ✦ www.hrsa.gov
- ✦ <http://futurehealth.ucsf.edu>
- ✦ www.rcmar.ucla.edu
- ✦ www.geronet.ucla.edu
- ✦ *My email: jcfrank@ucla.edu*

